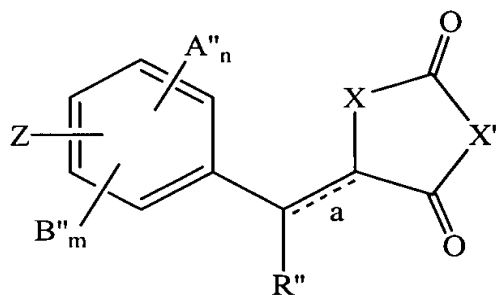


Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1-60. (Cancelled).

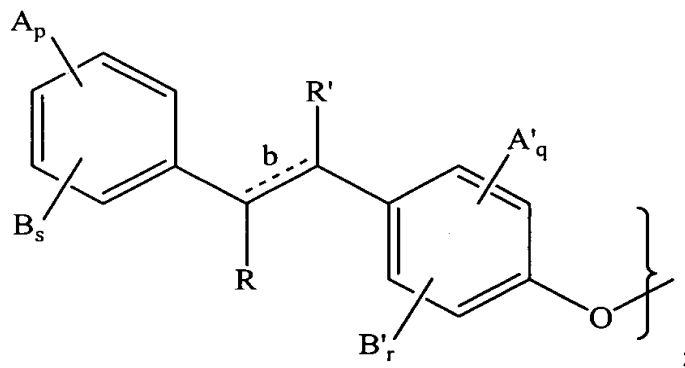
61. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may

be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; -CONR₂'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

d R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂'''' represents a cyclic ~~moiety~~ moiety;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

C

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-.

² 62. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ¹ 61, wherein R' represents ~~-CO₂R''', -CO₂R'', -CO₂Z' or -CONR₂'''' wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl or at least one R''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.~~

63. (Cancelled)

64. (Cancelled)

³ 65. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ¹ 61, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

⁴ 66. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ² 62, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

⁵ 67. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ⁵² 63 ¹¹⁵, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

⁶ 68. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ^{5A} 64 ¹¹⁷, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

⁷ 69. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ¹ 62 ⁶¹, wherein the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 a represents a single bond ~~and b represents a double bond.~~

⁸ 70. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ¹ 62 ⁶¹, wherein at least ~~two~~ one A group ~~represents~~ groups represent methoxy.

²
971. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~62~~², wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen ~~bond~~ atom.

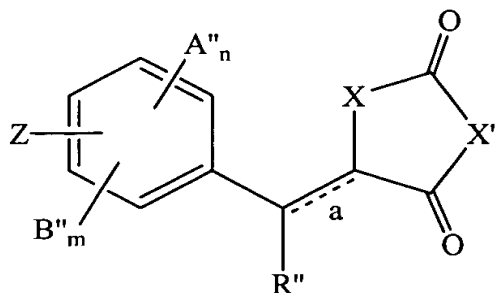
⁸
¹⁰72. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~70~~⁸, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen ~~bond~~ atom.

⁵³
¹¹73. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~61~~⁵³, wherein ~~R' is carbomethoxy~~ and ~~116~~⁵³ wherein said A is group represents methoxy.

⁵⁵
¹²74. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~64~~⁵⁵ ~~118~~ wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

⁸
¹³75. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~62~~⁸ ~~70~~ wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

¹⁴
76. (Previously presented). A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:

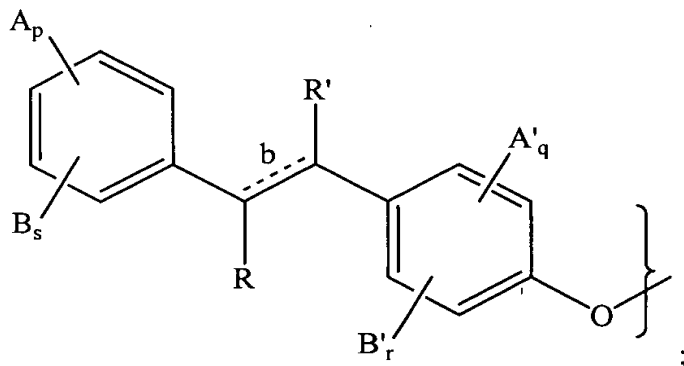


[1]

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

C

wherein Z is



H; A''; or B'';

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; -CONR₂'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂'''' represents a cyclic ~~moiety~~ moiety;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

01 A'' independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; or halo;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

15 71. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 14, wherein R' represents ~~-CO₂R''', -CO₂R''', -CO₂Z'~~ or ~~-CONR₂''''~~ ¹⁴ ~~wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl or at least one R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.~~

78. (Cancelled)

C

1679. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ⁷⁴137 ~~76~~, wherein ~~R' represents~~
~~CONR₂^{'''}~~ wherein both R^{'''} are the same and represent a hydrogen atom, methyl, or
methoxy.

1780. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ¹⁴76, wherein X is -S- and X' is
>NH.

1881. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ¹⁵77, wherein X is -S- and X' is
>NH.

C¹ 1982. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ⁷⁰78 ~~133~~, wherein X is -S- and X'
is >NH.

2083. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ⁷²79 ~~135~~, wherein X is -S- and X'
is >NH.

2184. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ¹⁴77 ~~76~~, wherein the bond labeled
"a" in formula 1 a represents a single bond and b represents a double bond.

2285. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ¹⁵77, wherein at least ~~two~~ one A
~~groups represent~~ group represents methoxy.

2386. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ¹⁵77, wherein at least two A groups
represent a hydrogen ~~bond~~ atom.

2487. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ²²85, wherein at least two A groups
represent a hydrogen ~~bond~~ atom.

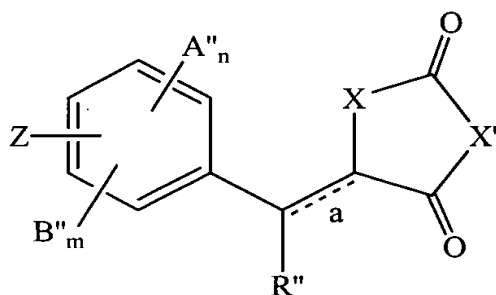
2588. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 76, wherein R' is carbomethoxy
and ⁷¹134 wherein said A group represents is methoxy.

C

²⁴₈₉. (Currently amended) The method of claim ⁷³~~76~~ ¹³⁶ wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

²⁷₉₀. (Currently amended) The method of claim ²²~~77~~ ⁸⁵ wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

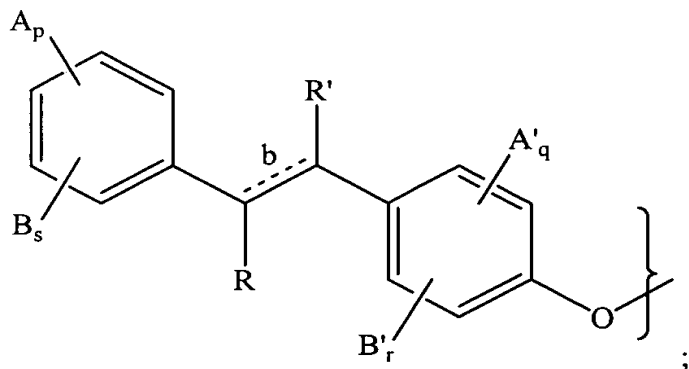
²⁸₉₁. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

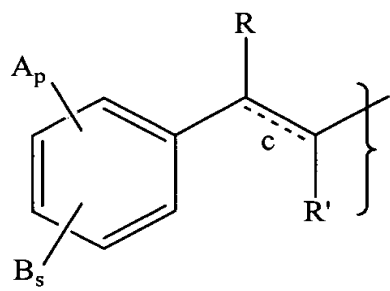
in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



or

C



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a, b and c represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R'''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR'''$; $-NR_2'''$; $-OH$; $-OR'''$; $-CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R'''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR'''$; $-NR_2'''$; $-OR'''$; $-CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R'''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR'''$; $-NR_2'''$; $-OH$; $-OR'''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; or $-(CH_2)_x$ -Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂'''' represents a cyclic moiety; ~~moiety~~;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-.

²⁹/₉₂ (Currently amended) A method according to claim ²⁸/₉₁, wherein R' represents ~~-CO₂R''', -CO₂R'', -CO₂Z' or -CONR₂'''' wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl or at least one R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.~~

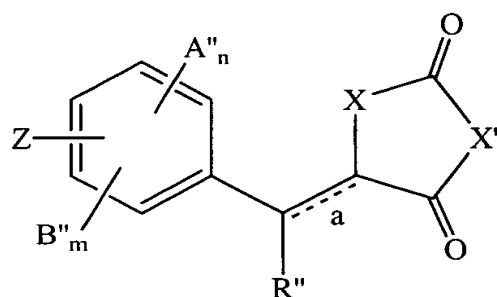
³⁰/₉₃ (Currently amended) A method according to claim ²⁸/_{150 91}, wherein R' represents ~~-CO₂R''' wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl.~~

³¹/₉₄ (Currently amended) A method according to claim ⁹¹/_{154 91}, wherein R' represents ~~CONR₂'''' wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom, atom or methyl, or methoxy.~~

- ²⁸
32/95. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ~~91~~, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- ²⁹
33/96. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ~~92~~, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- ⁸⁷
34/97. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 93 ~~150~~, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- ⁸⁹
35/98. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 94 ~~152~~, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- ²⁹
36/99. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~92~~, wherein the bond labeled "a" a represents a single bond ~~and b represents a double bond~~.
- ²⁹
37/100. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~92~~, wherein at least ~~two~~ one A groups ~~represent~~ group represents methoxy.
- ²⁹
38/101. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~92~~, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen ~~bond~~ atom.
- ³⁷
39/102. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~100~~, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen ~~bond~~ atom.
- ³⁸
40/103. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~91~~, ~~wherein R' is carbomethoxy~~ and ~~151~~ ⁸⁸ wherein said A is-group represents methoxy.
- ⁹⁰
41/104. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~91~~ ~~153~~, wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

42/ 105. (Currently amended) The method of claim 92 ³⁷ ~~100~~ wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

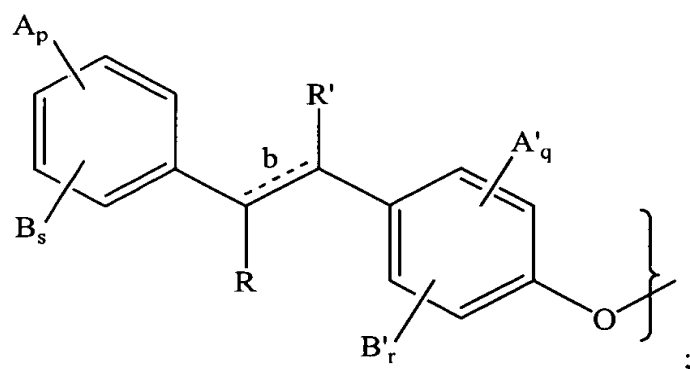
43/ 106. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

D

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

c) R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

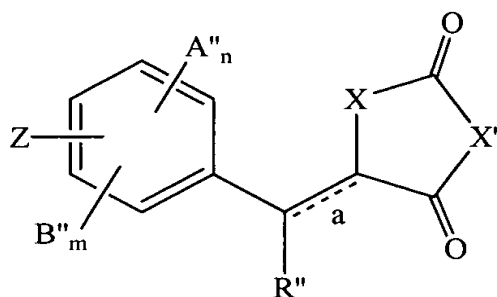
44 107. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 43 106, wherein R' represents -CO₂R''' or -CO₂Z' wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl.

C

~~45~~ 108. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ~~106~~⁴³, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

~~46~~ 109. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ~~107~~⁴⁴, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

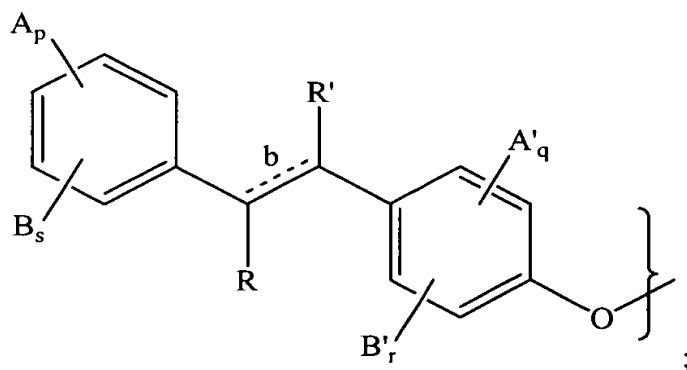
~~47~~ 110. (Previously presented). A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



H; A''; or B'';

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b

C

represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

C¹ R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

A'' independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; or halo;

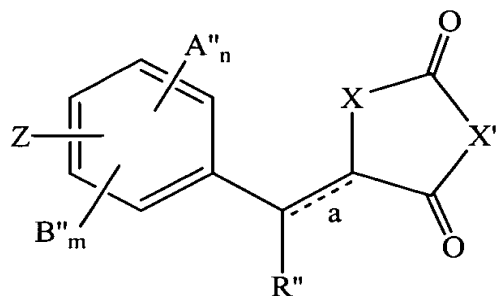
B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

C

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-.

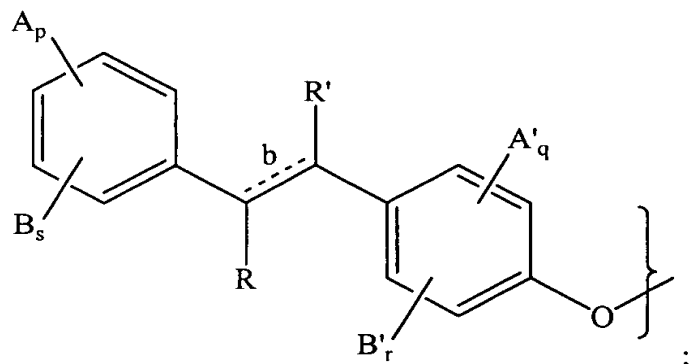
48/ 111. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

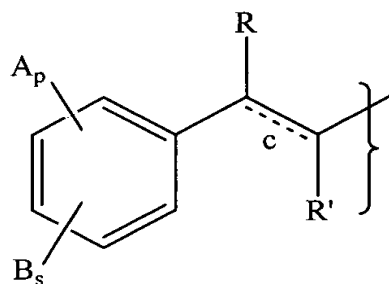
in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



or

C



n , m , q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a , b and c represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}''''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}''''$; $-\text{NR}_2''''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}''''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}''''$; $-\text{NR}_2''''$; $-\text{OR}''''$; $-\text{CONR}_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}''''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}''''$; $-\text{NR}_2''''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; or $-(\text{CH}_2)_x\text{-Ar}$, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

C¹ X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-.

49
112. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

50
113. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylamide in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

51
114. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 5-(4-(4-(1-carbomethoxy-2)-3,5-dimethoxy phenyl) ethenyl)-phenoxy)-benzyl)-2,4-thiazolidinedione in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

52
115. (New) A method according to claim ²~~62~~ wherein R' represents -CO₂R''.

C

~~53~~

~~116.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~115~~⁵² wherein R''' represents methyl.

~~54~~

~~117.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~62~~² wherein R' represents -CO₂Z'.

~~55~~

~~118.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~117~~⁵⁴ wherein Z' is a pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion.

~~56~~

~~119.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~62~~² wherein R' represents -CONR₂'''.

~~57~~

~~120.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~119~~⁵⁶ wherein at least one R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl or methoxy.

~~58~~

~~121.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~119~~⁵⁶, wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom or methyl.

~~59~~

~~122.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~119~~⁵⁶, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

~~60~~

~~123.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~61~~¹ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond.

~~61~~

~~124.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~69~~⁷ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond.

~~62~~

~~125.~~ (New) A method of claim ~~67~~⁵ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.

~~63~~

~~126.~~ (New) A method of claim ~~68~~⁶ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.

~~64~~

~~127.~~ (New) A method of claim ~~119~~⁵⁶ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.

- ⁶⁵
~~128.~~ (New) A method of claim ²~~62~~ wherein at least two A groups represent methoxy.
- ⁶⁶
~~129.~~ (New) A method of claim ¹~~61~~ wherein A' and B' represent hydrogen atoms.
- ⁶⁷
~~130.~~ (New) A method of claim ¹~~61~~ wherein A'' and B'' represent hydrogen atoms.
- ⁶⁸
~~131.~~ (New) A method of claim ¹~~61~~ wherein A', A'', B' and B'' all represent hydrogen atoms.
- ⁶⁹
~~132.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁶²~~125~~ wherein A', A'', B' and B'' all represent hydrogen atoms.
- ⁷⁰
~~133.~~ (New) A method according to claim ¹⁵~~77~~ wherein R' represents -CO₂R'''.
- ⁷¹
~~134.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁷⁰~~133~~ wherein R''' represents methyl.
- ⁷²
~~135.~~ (New) A method according to claim ¹⁵~~77~~ wherein R' represents -CO₂Z'.
- ⁷³
~~136.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁷²~~135~~ wherein Z' is a pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion.
- ⁷⁴
~~137.~~ (New) A method according to claim ¹⁵~~77~~ wherein R' represents -CONR₂'''.
- ⁷⁵
~~138.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁷⁴~~137~~ wherein at least one R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl or methoxy.
- ⁷⁶
~~139.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁷⁴~~137~~, wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom or methyl.

~~77~~ 140. (New) A method according to claim ~~76~~¹⁴ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond.

~~78~~ 141. (New) A method according to claim ~~84~~²¹ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond.

~~79~~ 142. (New) A method of claim ~~133~~⁷⁰ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.

~~80~~ 143. (New) A method of claim ~~135~~⁷² wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.

~~81~~ 144. (New) A method of claim ~~137~~⁷⁴ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.

~~82~~ 145. (New) A method of claim ~~77~~¹⁵ wherein at least two A groups represent methoxy.

~~83~~ 146. (New) A method of claim ~~78~~¹⁴ wherein A' and B' represent hydrogen atoms.

~~84~~ 147. (New) A method of claim ~~76~~¹⁴ wherein A'' and B'' represent hydrogen atoms.

~~85~~ 148. (New) A method of claim ~~76~~¹⁴ wherein A', A'', B' and B'' all represent hydrogen atoms.

~~86~~ 149. (New) A method according to claim ~~133~~⁷⁰ wherein A', A'', B' and B'' all represent hydrogen atoms.

~~87~~ 150. (New) A method according to claim ~~92~~²⁹ wherein R' represents -CO₂R'''.

~~88~~ 151. (New) A method according to claim ~~130~~²⁷ wherein R''' represents methyl.

C

- ~~89~~²⁹ 152. (New) A method according to claim ~~92~~²⁹ wherein R' represents $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$.
- ~~90~~⁸⁹ 153. (New) A method according to claim ~~152~~⁸⁹ wherein Z' is a pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion.
- ~~91~~²⁹ 154. (New) A method according to claim ~~92~~²⁹ wherein R' represents $-\text{CONR}_2''''$.
- ~~92~~⁹¹ 155. (New) A method according to claim ~~154~~⁹¹ wherein at least one R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl or methoxy.
- C ~~93~~⁹² 156. (New) A method according to claim ~~155~~⁹² wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom or methyl.
- ~~94~~⁹¹ 157. (New) A method according to claim ~~154~~⁹¹, wherein X is $-\text{S}-$ and X' is $>\text{NH}$.
- ~~95~~²⁸ 158. (New) A method according to claim ~~91~~²⁸ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond.
- ~~96~~³⁶ 159. (New) A method according to claim ~~99~~³⁶ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond.
- ~~97~~⁸⁷ 160. (New) A method of claim ~~150~~⁸⁷ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.
- ~~98~~⁸⁹ 161. (New) A method of claim ~~152~~⁸⁹ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.
- ~~99~~⁹¹ 162. (New) A method of claim ~~154~~⁹¹ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.
- ~~100~~⁴⁴ 163. (New) A method according to claim ~~107~~⁴⁴ wherein R' represents $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}''''$.
- C

~~101~~
~~164.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~163~~¹⁰⁰ wherein R''' represents methyl.

~~102~~
~~165.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~107~~⁴⁴ wherein R' represents -CO₂Z'.

~~103~~
~~166.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~165~~¹⁰² wherein Z' is a pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion.

~~104~~
~~167.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~163~~¹⁰⁰, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

~~105~~
~~168.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~165~~¹⁰², wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

~~106~~
~~169.~~ (New) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N,N-dimethyl-acrylamide in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

~~107~~
~~170.~~ (New) A method of claim ~~62~~² wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of 3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylamide,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N,N-dimethyl-acrylamide,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N-methoxy,-N-methyl-acrylamide,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylidenemethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid methyl ester,

3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylidenemethyl)-
phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid methyl ester,

3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-
phenyl}-propionic acid,

3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolid in-5-ylidenemethyl)-
phenoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid,

3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylidenemethyl)-
phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid, and

3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-
phenyl}-propionic acid methyl ester.

al
encl.

C